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April 28, 1988

OCA FILE DHC/GAO

Honorable William H. Webster Director of Central Intelligence Central Intelligence Agency Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Webster:

Over the years the Committee on Government Operations has taken an active interest in improving the management of U.S. Government operations overseas, both in the quality of services provided and in their cost effectiveness.

In an effort to avoid duplication and the unnecessary costs associated with it, the Committee has encouraged agencies operating overseas to participate in shared administrative support services. It has been disappointing, therefore, to continue to learn of problems associated with these support services. I am convinced that the potential for consolidating management services overseas remains. Unfortunately, however, consolidating services, particularly in developing countries, continues to be troublesome.

Recently, I requested the General Accounting Office to conduct a study of administrative support services overseas. A copy of the GAO report is enclosed. be most interested in knowing of your experience with administrative support services overseas and, in particular, having your comments on the the report. In view of your agency's commitments overseas, I would appreciate receiving any specific suggestions you may have as to how the process of sharing administrative support services can be improved.

Your early reply would be greatly appreciated. Meanwhile, with every good wish to you, I am

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Enclosure